



News Release

Joint Program Executive Office, Joint Tactical Radio System

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JPEO JTRS Announces 'Business Model' for Certifying JTRS Radios

SAN DIEGO – A business model for certifying Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS) radios is critical as JTRS program managers across multiple radio domains execute the restructured program. The Joint Program Executive Office announced the business model; it is a result of discussions with the Joint Staff, Services and National Security Agency (NSA).

JTRS certification is based upon products achieving Software Communications Architecture (SCA) certification and meeting the following criteria:

1. Makes use of software and artifacts from the JTRS Information Repository, is certified by Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC) per the JITC waveform conformance and interoperability test processes, utilizes approved JTRS Standards per the JTRS Standardization Plan (e.g., Application Program Interfaces, Key Tags, etc.);
2. Adheres to Unified Infosec Criteria and JTRS Security Specification requirements;
3. Includes a programmable cryptographic module/subsystem;
4. Complies with the JTRS Operational Requirements Document 3.2.1 (Key Performance Parameters and threshold) unless specific requirements have been waived by the cognizant government authority;
5. The software components of the product developed under government direction and expense are submitted to the JTRS Information Repository with a grant of Government Purpose Rights

At this time, no radios meet all the above criteria. Two handheld radios, the Thales JTRS Enhanced Multiband Inter/Intra Team Radio (JEM) (PRC-148), and the Harris Falcon III (PRC-152), however, currently meet some of the basic criteria. Both are SCA compliant with waivers, are NSA-certified and have a modern crypto solution. Further, the JEM (PRC-148) radio, as a JPEO-developed product, has been operationally tested in a formal setting and found to be effective and suitable.

About JPEO JTRS

In February 2005, the Under Secretary of Defense of Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD AT&L) announced organizational changes to the JTRS program to ensure the development of all affiliated programs as products under single management. In March 2005, USD (AT&L) appointed a Joint Program Executive Officer (JPEO) for JTRS to provide an enterprise management structure. The JPEO JTRS was given full directive authority for research, development, and developmental test and evaluation of all waveforms, radios, common ancillary and network management equipment, and software for the JTRS program. JPEO JTRS directs and implements all aspects of JTRS acquisition from Milestone A approval through successful full rate production decision.

On March 31, 2006, the Department of Defense signed an Acquisition Decision Memo (ADM) approving the restructuring of the JTRS program under a management construct that creates a "family of software radios." The ADM directed the JPEO to implement the restructured JTRS program with an evolutionary acquisition strategy using an incremental development approach at moderate risk.